development of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes is attached (Annexure).

(b) and (c) Funds are released to the State Government/U.Ts. on the basis of proposals received from them. No district-wise allocation of funds is made in respect of these schemes.

Reservation for Physically Handicapped in Private Organisations

1938. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that provisions for reservation for physically handicapped in recruitment as provided in the Disabilities Act of 1995, has not notified for public sector organisations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether private organisations will not be obliged to implement social legislations enacted by the Parliament; and

(d) the details of its implementation since the enactment if the legislation is applicable to private organisations as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Reservation based on Social and Economic Backwardness

† 939. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to amend the Constitution in which the basis of reservation would be social and economic backwardness; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reaction of Government with regard to the demand made by the minorities in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir, the Supreme Court in its judgement in the case of Indira Sawhney & Others *Vs.* Union of India has held constitutionally invalid reservation of posts in favour of other economically backward sections of the people who are not covered by any of the existing scheme of reservation.

(b) All possible steps are taken to ensure that the candidates belonging to the minority communities are enable to come forward for public appointments.

Special programmes for the socio-economic and educational upliftment are also being implemented.

Reservation for Physically Handicapped in Central Government Jobs

1940. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to increase the percentage of reservation for the physically handicapped persons in the Central Government jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 already provides for reservation of not less than 3% in jobs in government establishments for persons with disabilities.

Reduction in Floor Price of Steel Products

1941. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the floor price of a number of Steel products including HR Coils to the tune of around 20 per cent despite the known fact that C.I.S. countries are dumping those products in our country; if so, the reasons therefor;